

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A drawing tablet according to claim 1, wherein:

comprising:

the a translucent surface is translucent; and

the an imaging sensor is mounted below the surface surface, the imaging sensor designed to capture an image on the surface even if the image is occluded from above.

3. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 2, the drawing tablet further comprising transmission means designed to transmit the image captured by the imaging sensor to a computer.

4. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 3, wherein the transmission means includes a cable coupled to the drawing tablet and to the computer.

5. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 3, wherein the transmission means a wireless transmitter designed to wirelessly transmit the image to the a wireless receiver coupled to the computer.

6. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 2, the drawing tablet further comprising software in a computer designed to adjust the image to compensate for distortion by the imaging sensor.

7. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 2, the drawing tablet further comprising software in a computer designed to adjust the image to compensate for a reversed image captured by the imaging sensor.

8. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 2, the drawing tablet further comprising an erasable pen designed to draw on the surface.

9. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 8, the drawing tablet further comprising an eraser for erasing marks produced by the erasable pen.

10. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 8, wherein the image is hand-drawn with the erasable pen.

11. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 2, wherein the imaging sensor is designed to capture images of physical objects placed on the surface.

12. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 2, wherein the imaging sensor is designed to capture colors in the image on the surface.

13. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 2, the drawing tablet further comprising software in a computer designed to animate at least a portion of the image.

14. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 13, wherein the software is designed to animate the portion of the image based on a movement of a physical object placed on the surface.

15. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 2, the drawing tablet further comprising light projecting means.

16. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 15, wherein the light projecting means includes:
a light emitting source; and
mirrors designed to reflect the light; and
galvanometers designed to move the mirrors to steer light emitting from the light emitting source onto the surface.

17. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 16, wherein the light emitting source is constructed and arranged to vary its luminance.

18. (Original) A drawing tablet according to claim 2, the drawing tablet further comprising an additional light source to increase contrast of the image on the surface as captured by the imaging sensor.

19. (Canceled)

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20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 19, wherein for using a drawing tablet, the method comprising:

capturing an image includes capturing the image from beneath the a translucent surface of the drawing tablet, the drawing tablet including a translucent surface so that no objects on the surface of the drawing tablet are occluded from below;

transmitting the captured image to a computer; and

processing the captured image on the computer for display on a monitor.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 20, wherein transmitting the captured image includes wirelessly transmitting the captured image to a computer.

22. (Original) A method according to claim 20, wherein processing the captured image includes animating at least a portion of the captured image.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 22, wherein animating at least a portion of the captured image includes animating the portion of the captured image based on the contents of the captured image.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 23, wherein animating the portion of the captured image includes animating the portion of the captured image based on a change in the contents of the captured image.

25. (Original) A method according to claim 20, the method further comprising repeating at intervals the steps of capturing, transmitting, and processing.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 25, the method further comprising updating the image on the surface of the drawing tablet.

27. (Original) A method according to claim 20, the method further comprising projecting a light onto the drawing tablet.

28. (Original) A method according to claim 27, the method further comprising;

capturing a change in the captured image; and
measuring how accurately the change follows the projected light.

29. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:
a storage medium, said storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that, when
executed by a computing device, result in:
receiving an image captured from beneath a translucent surface of a drawing tablet,
the image captured in a manner such that ~~no~~ no portion of the surface of the drawing tablet is
occluded from below;
modifying the received image; and
displaying the modified image.

30. (Currently Amended) An article according to claim 29, wherein receiving an
image includes receiving the image captured by an imaging sensor from beneath the
translucent surface of the drawing tablet.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Original) An article according to claim 29, wherein modifying the
received image includes modifying the received image based on the contents of the image.

33. (Original) An article according to claim 29, wherein modifying the
received image includes modifying the image based on a change from a prior image.

34. (Original) An article according to claim 33, wherein modifying the image
based on a change from a prior image includes animating the image based on the change.

35. (New) A drawing tablet comprising:
a translucent surface; and
an imaging sensor mounted below the surface, the imaging sensor designed to capture
an image on the surface even if the image is occluded from above and to capture images of
physical objects placed on the surface.

36. (New) A drawing tablet comprising:

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a translucent surface;
an imaging sensor mounted below the surface, the imaging sensor designed to capture an image on the surface even if the image is occluded from above; and
software in a computer designed to animate at least a portion of the image based on a movement of a physical object placed on the surface.

37. (New) A drawing tablet comprising:
a translucent surface;
an imaging sensor mounted below the surface, the imaging sensor designed to capture an image on the surface even if the image is occluded from above; and
light projecting means.

38. (New) A drawing tablet according to claim 37, wherein the light projecting means includes:
a light emitting source; and
mirrors designed to reflect the light; and
galvanometers designed to move the mirrors to steer light emitting from the light emitting source onto the surface.

39. (New) A drawing tablet according to claim 38, wherein the light emitting source is constructed and arranged to vary its luminance.

40. (New) A drawing tablet comprising:
a translucent surface;
an imaging sensor mounted below the surface, the imaging sensor designed to capture an image on the surface even if the image is occluded from above; and
an additional light source to increase contrast of the image on the surface as captured by the imaging sensor.

41. (New) A method for using a drawing tablet, the method comprising:
capturing an image from beneath a translucent surface of the drawing tablet so that no objects on the surface of the drawing tablet are occluded from above;
transmitting the captured image to a computer;
processing the captured image on the computer for display on a monitor; and

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projecting a light onto the drawing tablet.

42. (New) A method according to claim 41, the method further comprising;
capturing a change in the captured image; and
measuring how accurately the change follows the projected light.

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